

The above amendment and these remarks are in response to the communication from Examiner Hai V. Nguyen, dated 29 Jul 2002.

Claims 1-17 are in the case, none having been allowed.

35 U.S.C. 103

Claims 1-17 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Albers et al. (US 6,223,188 B1), hereafter referred to as Albers, in view of Tso et al. (US 6,185,625 B1), hereafter Tso.

In broad overview, applicants' invention relates to the following:

1. Receiving the HEAD request.
2. Responding to the HEAD request with the attributes of the data requested in the header.
3. Receiving a GET request.

4. Responding to the GET request with the data attributes and data.

In this manner, the present invention has to do with whether to retrieve data at all. The HEAD method is used to retrieve information on one web page to determine whether to retrieve that web page. The GET method is used to retrieve the data when the type of data and size match the user specifications.

On the other hand, Tso uses a proxy server that converts object responses from remote servers connected to the proxy server to an encoding preferred by the user.

Further on the other hand, Albers uses the HEAD method of the Internet standard for HTTP 1.0 protocol in RFC 1945 to get information about all the links on a particular page so that auditory or visual cues can be set based on the data type of those links.

Applicants assert that the combination of Albers and Tso do not teach the present invention. In applicants invention, HEAD is used to query the information about data on a remote server, which is similar to Albers, but then

unlike Albers makes decisions about whether to retrieve the data when it is within the size and type specified by a user.

Tso saves download time by only downloading data that is the correct encoding and further requires data modification by a proxy server. The present invention requires no such data modification to the data, except to get only the first xx characters based on a user specification. The present invention provides the unique capability to save download time based on type and size of data.

Applicants have amended all independent claims (1, 2 and 11-17) to clarify that aspect of the invention which provides for the use of the HEAD method to retrieve information on one web page to determine whether to retrieve that web page, and the use of the GET method to retrieve the data file when the type of data and size match the user specifications.

Applicants request that the rejection of claims 1-17 under 35 U.S.C. 102 over Tso be withdrawn, and the case passed to issue.

Claims 14-17 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)⁰ over Albers and Tso in view of well known features of using computer program product stored on a computer readable medium.

Applicants accept the Examiner's Official Notice of certain teachings of the art with respect to claims 14-17, which claims are cast in the form of Beauregard claims for licensing purposes. These claims have also been amended to clarify the distinctions discussed previously with respect to Albers and Tso, and as such also distinguish the combination of Albers and Tso in view of the teachings of which the Examiner has taken Official Notice.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attachment is captioned "**Version with markings to show changes made.**"


Applicants urge that the above amendments be entered and the case passed to issue with claims 1-17.

If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conversation with applicant(s) attorney could possibly facilitate prosecution of the case, he may be reached at the number noted below.

Sincerely,

R. G. Harman, et al.

By


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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

Claims 1, 2, and 11-17 have been amended as follows. All claims in the case are presented for convenience.

1 1. [Amended] A method for operating a server responsive
2 to a request for data from a client browser specifying data
3 type and size, comprising the steps of:

4 receiving from said browser a head request for the
5 header of a data file;

6 responsive to said head request, serving to said
7 browser data file header information including data
8 file data type and size;

9 responsive to said browser determining that said data
10 file data type and size are in accordance with said
11 request for data, receiving from said browser a get
12 request; and thereafter

13 responsive to said get request, serving to said browser
14 data corresponding to said header.

1 2. [Amended] A method for operating a client browser for
2 requesting a data file from a server, comprising the steps
3 of:

4 receiving data parameters including data type and size
5 from a browser user;

6 communicating to said server a head request;

7 receiving from said server in response to said head
8 request a data file header describing data file
9 parameters including data type and size;

10 determining if said data file parameters are within
11 said user data parameters; and if so,

12 communicating to said server a get request requesting
13 said server to serve said data file.

1 3. The method of claim 2, wherein said data parameters
2 define the data type and data size acceptable to said user

3 and wherein said data file parameters include the data
4 content type and data content size of said data file.

1 4. The method of claim 3, wherein said data file comprises
2 a plurality of data files including one or more inline
3 documents.

1 5. The method of claim 4 wherein each of said plurality of
2 data files is of a type selected from the set of data file
3 types including image data, video data, audio data, and text
4 data.

1 6. The method of claim 5, wherein a head request is
2 submitted separately for each said inline document.

1 7. The method of claim 6, wherein said get request is
2 submitted selectively only for those inline documents having
3 data parameters within said user parameters.

1 8. The method of claim 3, wherein said data parameters
2 include a maximum data size and a minimum data size
3 acceptable to said user.

1 9. The method of claim 2, responsive to said data file
2 parameters not being within said user data parameters,
3 comprising the further step of providing to said user the
4 option of modifying said user data parameters.

1 10. The method of claim 2, responsive to said data file
2 parameters not being within said user data parameters,
3 comprising the further step of providing to said user the
4 option of requesting a portion of said data file.

1 11. [Amended] A server system, comprising:

2 a first logic element for receiving from a client
3 browser a head request for [the] a header of a data
4 document;

5 a second logic element responsive to said head request

6 for serving to said client browser a data document
7 header including data type indicia and data size
8 indicia;

9 a third logic element for receiving from said browser a
10 get request responsive to said browser determining that
11 said data type indicia and data size indicia match a
12 user request; and

13 a fourth logic element responsive to said get request
14 for serving to said browser a data document
15 corresponding to said header.

1 12. [Amended] A server system, comprising:

2 first means for receiving from a client browser a head
3 request for a [the] header of a data document;

4 second means responsive to said head request for
5 serving to said client browser a data document header
6 including data type indicia and data size indicia;

7 third means for receiving from said browser a get

8 request responsive to said browser determining that
9 said data type indicia and data size indicia match a
10 user request; and

11 fourth means responsive to said get request for serving
12 to said browser a data document corresponding to said
13 header.

1 13. [Amended] A client browser for requesting a data file
2 from a server, comprising:

3 means for receiving user specified data parameters
4 including data type and size from a browser user;

5 means for communicating to said server a head request;

6 means for receiving from said server in response to
7 said head request a data file header describing data
8 file parameters including data type and size;

9 means for determining if said data file parameters are
10 within said user specified data parameters; and if so,

11 means operable for communicating to said server a get
12 request requesting said server to serve said data file.

1 14. [Amended] A program storage device readable by a
2 machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions
3 executable by a machine to perform method steps for
4 operating a client browser for requesting a data file from a
5 server, said method steps comprising:

6 receiving user data parameters including data size and
7 type from a browser user;

8 communicating to said server a head request;

9 receiving from said server in response to said head
10 request a data file header describing data file
11 parameters including data size and type;

12 determining if said data file parameters are within
13 said user data parameters; and only if so,

14 communicating to said server a get request requesting
15 said server to serve said data file.

1 15. [Amended] An article of manufacture comprising:

2 a computer useable medium having computer readable
3 program code means embodied therein for operating a
4 client browser for requesting a data file from a
5 server, the computer readable program means in said
6 article of manufacture comprising:

7 computer readable program code means for causing a
8 computer to effect receiving user specified data
9 parameters from a browser user;

10 computer readable program code means for causing a
11 computer to effect communicating to said server a head
12 request;

13 computer readable program code means for causing a
14 computer to effect receiving from said server in
15 response to said head request a data file header
16 describing data file parameters;

17 computer readable program code means for causing a

18 computer to effect determining if said data file
19 parameters are within said user specified data
20 parameters; and only if so,

21 computer readable program code means for causing a
22 computer to effect communicating to said server a get
23 request requesting said server to serve said data file.

1 16. [Amended] A computer program element for operating a
2 client browser for requesting a data file from a server
3 according to the steps of:

4 receiving data parameters including data type and size
5 from a browser user;

6 communicating to said server a head request;

7 receiving from said server in response to said head
8 request a data file header describing data file
9 parameters including data type and size;

10 determining if said data file parameters are within
11 said user data parameters; and if so,

12 communicating to said server a get request requesting
13 said server to serve said data file.

1 17. [Amended] A program storage device readable by a
2 machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions
3 executable by a machine to perform method steps for
4 operating a server responsive to a request for data from a
5 client browser, said method steps comprising:

6 receiving from said browser a head request for the
7 header of a data file;

8 responsive to said head request, serving to said
9 browser data file header information including data
10 type and data size;

11 receiving from said browser a get request responsive to
12 said browser determining that said data file is of a
13 data type and data size specified by a user; and
14 thereafter

15 responsive to said get request, serving to said browser
data corresponding to said header.